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MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1870.

GEORGE D. PRENTICE.

In our fourth edition of Saturday we gave a brief biographical sketch of George D. Prentice, who died on Saturday morning at his home in Louisville, and we allude to him again in this place, because he was a very remarkable man, whose memory deserves something more at the hands of his brother journalists than a hasty notice of the leading events of his life. For many years Mr. Prentice was a power in the West, and his errors and mistakes were such as belonged to a strong nature. He commenced his career as a Kentucky editor when the civilization of that State was represented by the pistol and bowie-knife, and he fought his way along in the usual style that a man living in such a state of society is obliged to. He was abusive and personal in the conduct of his paper, but he spiced his blackguardism with so much genuine wit, and often good natural humor. that even his enemies were obliged to have a certain respect and admiration for him. He was a bitter partisan, for conservatism as we understand it was something unknown in the Kentucky civilisation of forty years ago. But Mr. Prentice was always a man of liberal ideas, and his politics and philosophy meant progress. More than almost any other man in the State, he exerted himself to place Kentucky in a foremost position in the Union. and to secure the development of her many resources; and he was the firm friend and ally of Henry Clay and other statesmen who represented the party of progress in national

and State politics. At the breaking out of the Rebellion Mr. Prentice, although surrounded by the most powerful secession influences, was true to the principles of his life, and he advocated the Union cause with all the energy of his nature; and the refusal of Kentucky to join the Rebellion was due in a large measure to his influence. After the suppression of the Rebellion. Mr. Prentice made the serious mistake of believing in Andrew Johnson, and he became a warm advocate of "my policy" and a supporter of the extreme Rebel ideas on the subject of reconstruction. This defection can easily be accounted for from the fact that he was a Southern man in his ideas and feelings, and that he was not gifted with an analytical mind. He was deceived by the specious pretenses of the early part of Johnson's administration, and having espoused his cause, he fought for it with all the blind partisanship that was a marked characteristic of his nature. He was, besides, in feeble health, and the policy of his paper was in a great measure controlled by his associates. These facts must be taken into consideration in reviewing Mr. Prentice's career, and there is no reason to doubt the heartiness of his patriotism or his desire to see the Union reconstructed as speedily as possible on a permanent basis that would obliterate the passions engendered by the war, and bring about a new era of peace and pros-

To perhaps a majority of the people of the United States, Mr. Prentice was better known as a wit and poet than as a journalist. His humorous sayings and amusing anecdotes of him were circulated by every newspaper in the country, and although there were many things fathered on him for which he was not responsible, he yet uttered enough genuine wittieisms to make a most amusing volume if they could be collected. As a poet Mr. Prentice was entitled to take a very high rank, and some of his verses breathe an inspiration that gives rise to a regret that the circumstances of his life were such that he was unable to devote himself exclusively to this branch of literature. He apparently thought but little of his poetical effusions, for he never took any pains to give them to the world in a permanent form, and was satisfied with such fame as he received from their frequent republication in the corners of the newspapers. With all his faults George D. Prentice was a man of no common stamp. He was a typical American, energetic, enterprising, dashing at obstacles and overturning them by main force, ready to support his opinions with pen or pistol, and often unscrupulous in the means he used to accomplish his objects or to defeat his opponents, but at the same time warm-hearted, with a fine vein of humor underlying his brusqueness, and inspired by a spirit of poesy that seemed almost out of place amid some of his surroundings. By his death the profession of journalism loses one of its brightest ornaments and one of its most influential members, and he will be regretted by thousands who never saw the man or felt the spell of his presence. May he rest in peace.

THE SEPTEMBER GOLD SPECULA.

TIONS

THE most interesting feature of the revival of the old story of the New York gold speculations by the Congressional investigating committee is the positive statement of one of the principal operators, Jay Gould, that he considers the efforts to link the President and the Secretary of the Treasury with the operations in Wall street during and preceding the famous September panic as malicious fabrications. The testimony of Fisk, although it is not so direct, points to the same conclusion, while it clearly indicates the origin of the slanderous reports. Prince Erie, according to his own confession, seems to have been tricked by Corbin into the belief that he had upon those obnoxious British bastiles, regult-

ence over his brother-in-law, the President. Fisk supposed that Corbin was acting as his cats-paw, whereas Corbin was making a catspaw of Fisk, and the latter evinced in this transaction nearly as great a lack of intelligence as of integrity. All the leading parties united in a conspiracy against the credit and business interests of the nation which cannot be too severely condemned; and Congress should, if possible, devise laws by which similar machinations can be severely punished hereafter. It is impossible for the worst criminals of the ordinary stamp to do as much mischief as the desperate gamblers of the Fisk, Gould, and Corbin stamp, and instead of gaining immunity by the magnitude of their transactions, the penalty for the offense should be made to correspond as far as possible with the extent of the injuries they endeavor to inflict. The present investigation has thus far served the good purpose of proving that the President is guiltless, although he has the misfortune of being afflicted by a speculative brother-in-law; but it will do rather more harm than good if it concludes with a practical confession that no means can be devised for obstructing the ruinous schemes of the New York gamblers. Men who systematically tamper with the public credit, bring ruin upon thousands of their fellow-citizens, unsettle values, and obstruct business, should not be permitted to breathe the air of the republic outside of the walls of a prison, and their ill-gotten gains should, if possible, be invariably confiscated by the Government.

ROCHEFORT'S aspirations for martyrdom have been gratified by a conviction and a sentence

THE PRESS IN FRANCE.

to six months' imprisonment and a fine of three thousand francs. The cable telegram states that this sentence "does not disturb his position as a Deputy in the Corps Legislatif," so that we suppose his incarceration is not to commence until his term as Deputy is concluded. Several other journalists have recently been convicted and sentenced to fines and imprisonment, and yet we are told that "an amnesty for offenders against the press laws will soon be issued, and a new law for the regulation of the press submitted to the Corps Legislatif." The Emperor is evidently in a dilemma. After his professions of liberalism, he fears to deny outright in France the freedom of the press which is enjoyed in England, and a large extent in the adjacent continental kingdoms. He knows that he can gain no credit from the people for magnanimity if he deprives them of opportunities for reading the criticisms of his opponents; and yet he fears the fires which are opened by the batteries of the radical press, and dreads the fierce editorials of his enemies more than an army with banners. The middle course he has adopted is neither creditable nor politic. It gratifies his foes by its display of conscious weakness, and maddens the populace by its exhibition of a tyrannical spirit. If he is not strong enough to withstand criticism, he should not attempt to humbug so shrewd a people as the French by false and tantalizing pretensions. He should either continue to govern as an unmitigated despot, making his will supreme, or let the people hear the worst charges that Rochefort and his compeers can prefer, and he will only weaken his dynasty by adding falsehood to

WHAT WILL THEY DO WITH HIM?-It will be a sore test of Senatorial consistency when the Hon. H. R. Revels presents his credentials as one of the Senators from reconstructed Mississippi. The House of Representatives was troubled some time ago with an apparition of the same color, but the issue was happily dodged by declaring that neither Menard nor any other man had a right to the seat which he claimed. In the case of Mississippi, however, there can be no such subterfuge, and Sumner and Trumbull, as well as Garrett Davis and Saulsbury, will be forced to face the question, and dispose of their brunette colleague. What will they do with him? Where will they seat him? It has been suggested that he should be sandwiched between Garrett Davis and Saulsbury, a refinement of cruelty which, it is hoped, would rid the Senate and the country forever of both these intolerable nuisances, by forcing them to resign. But there is a constitutional provision in the way, which declares that "no State, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate." It is said that there is a vacant seat between Brownlow, of Tennessee, and Gilbert, of Florida. Both of these Senators are so thoroughly reconstructed that it is possible they may settle the difficulty at once by tendering the vacant chair between them to the coming man from Mississippi. If they do not, the presence of a "nigger" in the Senate is likely to create as much confusion and consternation as did the 'inigger" in the late gubernatorial procession at Harrisburg.

AN APPEAL TO CHAMBERMAIDS, -And now comes General O'Neill, the redoubtable "President of the Fenian Brotherhood," with a proclamation calling upon all the adherents of the organization to assemble by representatives in a congress to be held in New York, on the 19th of April next ensuing, for the purpose, as we are told, of "making final preparations for active hostilities." And so anxious is the redoubtable O'Neill that these "final preparations" should be both formidable and harmonious, that he even condescends to invite the Fenians who recognize the bloodthirsty John Savage as "President" to participate. The whole thing means, of course, another raid on the chambermaids and kitchen-girls, and the redoubtable O'Neill will doubtless be as successful as he and his predecessors have been in the past in twisting a large share of their meagre savings out of them. But perhaps the redoubtable O'Neill means war in earnest this time, and that, as soon as the chambermaids have come down with the cash, and the "final preparations" | are complete, there will be a grand onslaught

an understanding with and centrolling influ- | ing in turning loose upon the world O'Dono- | van Rossa and the other Irish patriots who are suffering such indescribable things within their gloomy walls:

AMENITIES OF LAFE IN TEXAS. - The marvellous feat of William Tell with his historical cross-bow has been completely eclipsed in Texas. The people of that State have become so much addicted to the playful habit of shooting at each other that they have acquired an unprecedented degree of accuracy in their aim, and can single out an ear or a front tooth in an adversary, without endangering his jaw or head. Not long since, while a party of sportive Texans were displaying their skill by firing at a target, one of the number proposed a wager to the effect that if a cork were placed on a companion's head, and a silver dollar on the cork, he could knock the cork from under the dollar, leaving the coin in its place. As nobody but Texans were present, the wager was accepted, and at a distance of five paces from the conrageous ranger who volunteered to support the target, the skilful marksman stood and took his aim. It is needless to say that the vaunted feat was successfully performed. Phil, Sheridan passed some time in Texas, and became somewhat familiar with the habits of the people. He is reported to have said, on his return to the civilized world, that if he owned two farms, one in Texas and one in the hot place, he would sell the one in Texas and live on the other, and his preferences will not cause much

Landes, that model "progressive Christian," is no sooner securely lodged in Moyamensing for a year, than Mrs. Dr. Landis turns up, and, "having resumed practice, offers her services," etc. The announcement concludes with the statement of "books for sale." What books? would be a pertinent inquiry for the authorities to ask; and if, as will in all likelihood prove to be the case, they should turn out to be the same vile documents that Landis was sent below for vending, the inquiry should be pushed so far as to send Mrs. Dr. Landis down Eleventh street to keep the "progressive Christian" company. We do not see that these books are the less dangerous when a woman becomes their vendor. While they are about it, it would be well for the authorities to make a clean job of the Landis family, if the law will warrant it.

LION AND LAMB.-The Washington correspondent of the New York World, in discoursing upon the status of the Virginia question, says that State, "which went out of the Union like a lion, bids fair to come in like a lamb." The loyal people of the country will be unable to detect any impropriety in the metamorphosis, but a large majority of them will fail to see any necessity for mazzling the lamb when she is led back to the fold from which she rushed in such unseemly haste. The shepherd's crook should be laid upon her, to prevent another going astray, but it is hardly worth while to lay it on so roughly as to break her back.

"DANGEROUSLY FILTHY" is the term which has been applied to New York city by official authority. For the sake of metropolitan pride, we regret the necessity which compels us to assure our neighbor city that Philadelphia is also "dangerously filthy." It will mortify New York immensely to learn that Philadelphia can fairly claim to be her rival, even in the matter of filth, but facts are stubborn things, and even metropolitan pride must submit to them.

THE EXODUS FROM GREAT BRITAIN .- During the year 1869 the number of emigrants who left Liverpool was 172,731-a larger total than had been witnessed since 1852. Of the whole number 138,383 left for the United States, in the proportion of 57,320 English, 7231 Scotch, 29,056 Irish, and 44,775 "foreigners." The comparative insignificance of the Irish figure is accounted for by the fact that the great majority of emigrants in that country now sail from Irish

LOOK TO IT. -A little girl who was lost in the streets of London recently, on being questioned as to her parentage and place of birth, declared that she was "the child of sin," and "was born in wrath!" Here's a go for Mrs. Stowe. This creature is undoubtedly a granddaughter of Lord Byron, or something of the sort.

ENGLISH CRIMINAL STATISTICS .- In the year 1866-67 the total strength of the constabulary in Eugland and Wales was 24,073; in 1867-68 it was 25,832. Of this number, 9675 are represented by the metropolitan and city police. The criminal classes at large against whom this not very large army is arrayed amounted, for 1868, to more than 118,000, of whom 16,000 were under sixteen years of age, being an increase of 6000 over the total numbers of the preceding year. Of these, "known thieves and depredators" increased nearly 5 per cent., while 'vagrants and tramps" show an increase of 11 per cent. In London the increase is nearly 10 per cent.; in commercial ports it is nearly 2 per cent.; in Manchester, Bolton, Blackburn, and other seats of the cotton and linen trade, it is only 0.3 per cent.; it is 13 per cent. in Birmingham, Sheffield, and Wolverhampton; in the Eastern counties it is 6 per cent .: in the Southern and Southwestern counties it is 2 per cent. On the other hand, there is a decrease of 0.1 per cent. In agricultural towns like Exeter, Lincoln, etc.: of 0.3 per cent, in Bradford, Halifax, and other towns of the woollen manufactures; of 1.7 per cent. in what are termed "pleasure towns," such as Bath, Brighton, Doyer, and Leamington. The explanation of this change is probably to be found in the double fact that of late years there has been a steady influx of population into London and Manchester and other seats of industry, while there has been a corresponding decrease in such cities as Bath, Lincoln, and Exeter. In addition to those professional criminals who are at large, there are some 30,000 others whom the country is supporting at its own expense in buildings devoted to the punishment or reformation of crime. Of these it is not gratifying to learn that there is an increase of 8000 for the year 1868 over the year 1807. There is likewise an increase of more than 3000 in the number of persons apprehended during the same period. While it is satisfactory to learn that the number of murders known to have been committed in the year 1867-8 fell short by six of those which were com-

milited in 1868-7, it is not pleasant to find out that the whole amount of crimes involving vlolence committed in 1807-8 exceeded those of the preceding year by nearly 3000. Offenses against property both with and without violence increased in a considerable ratio. The verdiets of "murder" returned by the coroners' juries were, in 1868, 261; in 1867, 255; in 1866, 372. The commitments for murder were, in 1868, 71; in 1867, 94. This last number was exceptionally high, including 36 persons brought to trial for the murder of Sergeant Brett at Manchester. The annual sentences of death vary from 21 to 26 or 27, having always been under 30 since 1864. While these are diminishing, there is a correlative increase in seutences of penal servitude and imprisonment; and, few as are nowadays the sentences of death, the executions are still fewer. Of the minor offenders against whom summary proceedings are taken, 490,000 were arraigned and 143,000 discharged. The proportion of female convictions are on the increase. Offenses under the vagrant and police acts are steadily increasing. The apprehensions for these offenses would be much more numerous than they are if the police were more vigilant and observant. according to the dicta of some modern philosophers, tramps, beggars, and petty thieves are the legitimate products of wealth and civilization. Out of the 142,000 and odd people committed during the year 1868, fifty thousand could neither read nor write, and nearly ninety thousand read, or read and wrote, imperfectly. There is a daily average of 18,000 prisoners in confinement. There are 2500 officers, male and female, to look after these. There is one male warder to every 10.2 of the dally male prisoners, and one to every 7-9 of the females; a fact which implies the greater amount of "devil" in the criminals of the fair than of the ruder sex. The total cost is about £692,000 a year; about £56,000 of this is reimbursed by the produce of the prisoners' labor. The average charge for each prisoner is £37 a year. The cost of the constabulary increased from £1,920,000 in 1867 to over £2,000,000 in 1868, the average cost of each member of the force having risen from £73 in 1859 to more than £80 in 1868. It will be noticed that each prisoner costs nearly half as much per year as a member of the constabulary.

-Death was more than usually busy among the ranks of philologists last year. A few days ago there died Wilhelm Wackernagel, born in 1806, one of the greatest, if not the greatest, of "Germanists" after Jacob Grimm. As early as 1827 he produced some of the first fruits of his studies, and in 1833 he published his history of the German hexameter and pentameter since Klopstock. In the same year he accepted a chair at the Basle University, and civic duties and honors were soon superadded to his professional calling. He became successively member of the Great Council and of the Stadrath of that ancient city, which had first bestowed upon him the honorary citizenship when the Prussian anthorities had, in the political terrorism of the period, withdrawn from him his Prussian citizenship. Wackernagel's activity was as restless as ship. Wackernagel's activity was av restless as it was many-sided. Philology, history of litera-ture, of art, of manners and customs, philosophy of art, comparative mythology, and juris prudence-he has written on all these subjects, and on all of them as a master. The enumeration of his separate works, greater or smaller, apart from the countless contributions to the "Schweizer Museam," the "Altdeutsche Blatter," the "Zeitschrift fur Deutsches Alterthum," the Beitrage zur Geschichte und Literatur," etc., etc., would fill a goodly space. We may men-tion of his larger works the classical "Lesc-' in three volumes, the edition of the "Schwabenspiegel," the (unfinished) "History of German Literature," the "Altdentsches Worterbuch," an edition, undertaken jointly with Rieger, of Walter von der Vogelweide, etc., etc. Nor was he wanting in poetical genius. Many contributions with which he has enriched the German songbooks of the present and future generations. He has died in the fullness of his powers and in the midst of his many labors.

## SPECIAL NOTICES.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE MER-CHANTS' FUND—The Sixteenth Anniversary of the Merchants' Fund will be celebrated at the ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

On WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 2, at 7% o'clock. The annual report of the Board of Managers will be read, and addresses will be delivered by Managers will be read, and addresses will be delivered by Hon. WILLIAM STEONG, Rev. J. L. WITHEROW, Hon. JAMES R. LUDLOW, GEORGE H. STUART, Esq. The orchestra will be under the direction of Mark Hassler.

Carde of admission may be had gratuitously, by early application, at S. E. corner Third and Walnut streets, No. 110 North Delaware avenue, No. 516 Market atreets, No. 41 South Fourth street, or of either of the following committee:

WILLIAM O. LUDWIG, JAMES O. HAND, JAMES B. MOFARLAND, Committee of Arrangements.

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THURSDAY EVENING,
JANUARY 27, 1870.

TICKETS FOR ONE GENTLEMAN AND ONE LADY,
For sale at Andre & Co.'s, No. 1101 Chesnut street;
News Stand at the Continental Hotel; Hall of the Junger
Memmerchot; J. P. Tran's Jewelry Store, Second and
Coates streets; and Henry Nuss' Store, No. 239 N. Fighth
street, Also, Speciator's Tickets at 50 cents; and Jadies'
Tickets at \$1.

THE ATHEN EUM OF PHILADEL.

The Annual Meeting and Election for Directors of this Institution will be held on MONDAY, the 7th day of Lebruary nest, at 11 o'clock A. M.

As there are several shares on which the annual dues remain unpaid, the owners of them are hereby notified that they will be forfeited, agreeably to the charter and laws of the Company, unless they are paid on or before the let day of March mext.

Annual dues for the present year reduced to five dollars.

GEORGE E. MOULTON.

Socretary and Librarian.

January 18, 1870.

DE CORN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK At the annual election for the Directors of this Hank held on the lith inst. the following gentlemen were unanimously elected to serve the ensuing year:

Hon. A. G. Cattell:
J. W. Torrer.
H. Craig.
A. Whilldin.
J. F. Gross.
P. B. Mingle.
H. W. Catherwood.
H. W. Catherwood.

J. F. Gross.

P. B. Mingle.

H. W. Catherwood.

And at a meeting of the Board held this day, Hon. A. G. CATTELL, was unanimously re-elected President; J.W. TORREY, Esq., Vice-President, and 118 ft

H. P. SCHETKY, Oashier.

PHILADELPHIA AND TRENTON RAILROAD COMPANY—Office, No. 224 SOUTH DELAWARE Avenue.

PRILADELPHIA, January 18, 1870.

The Directors have this day declared a semi-animal dividend of FIVE PER CENT, upon the capital stock of the Company, clear of taxes, from the profits of the six months ending December 31, 1882, payable on and after February 1 proximo, when the transfer books will be restauened.

J. PARKER NORRIS, Treasurer. CONNELLSVILLE GAS COAL COM-

PANY.

PHILADRISHA, January 24, 1870.

The Annual Meeting of the stockholders of the CONNELLSVILLE GAS COAL COMPANY will be held at
their office, No. 3143; WALNUT Street, on MONDAY,
February 7, 1870, at 12 o'clock M., to elect five Directors
to serve for the ensuing year.
124mwfot NORTON JOHNSON, Secretary.

SCHOOL OF DESIGN, NORTHWEST PENN SQUARE. Parents wishing to have their children thoroughly educated in Drawing, Painting, Designing, Wood Engraving, etc., are respectfully informed that the next term of this School will begin on TUESDAY, February 1.

12376 Principal.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMERCIAL EXCHANGE ASSOCIATION will be held at their Rooms,
No. 421 WALNUT Street, on TUESDAY Next, 25th instant, for the election of officers to serve during the ensuing year, and to consider the Annual Report, and other
business. Polls open from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M.
G. R. TISDALL, SUCCESSE.

SPECIAL NOTICES. For additional Special Action see the Inellie Pages. JOHN WANAMARE

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WENDELL PHILLIPS, January 31.

Subject.—The Questions of To-morrow."

PETROLEUM V. NASBY (D. R. LOUKE), February 3.

Subject.—The Lords of Greation."

RALPH WALDO EMERSON, February 7.

Subject.—Social Life in America."

REV. E. H. CHAPIN, D. D., February 10.

Subject.—The Holl of Honor."

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS, February 24.

Subject.—Our National Folly—The Civil Service."

PROF. MENRY MORTON, February 28.

Subject.—Solar Eclipsen."

BAYARD TAYLOR, March 3.

Subject.—Reform and Art."

JOHN G. SAXE, March 21. Subject... "Reform and Art."
JOHN G. SAXE, March 21.
Subject... "French Folks at Home."
PROF. ROBERT E. ROHERS, March 24.
Subject... "Chemical Forces in Nature and the Arts."
ANNA E. DIOKINSON, April 7.
Subject... "Down Brakes."
Admission to each Lecture, 50 cents: Reserved Seats, 75 cents.

Tickets to be obtained at GOULD'S, No. 923 CHES. NUT Street, from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M.

HENRY WARD BEECHER

AT THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, TUESDAY, PEBRUARY 1. SUBJECT: "THE HOUSEHOLD."

HORACE GREELEY,

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21. SUBJECT:-"THE WOMAN QUESTION."

These Lectures are delivered for the benefit of the Young Men's Christian Association.
Tickets will be sold at Ashmead's, No. 724 Chesnut street, on Tuesday merning, 25th instant.
Reserved seats, 75 cents. Admission, 50 cents. Reserved seats in Family Circle, 50 cents.

IRISH BARDS AND BALLADS. By request of a large number of pro and friends of literature, CHARLES W. BROOKE, Esq.

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Will repeat his successful Lecture,
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MADAME JOSEPHINE SCHIMPF
Will also appear, to properly illustrate the melodies of the
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Tekets, 50 and 75 cents, which may be procured at Boner's, Trumpler's, and Carneross' Music Stores, McGrath's,
Trenwitn's, and Peterson's Book Stores, and at Covert's
Exchange, Continental Hotel.

121 fm2t BOY OFFICE OF THE DELAWARE DIVI SION CANAL COMPANY OF PENNSYLVANIA, NO

363 WALNUT Street. PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 22, 1870. The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of this Com pany will be held at their office on TUESDAY, February 1, 1870, at 12 o'clock M., when an election will be held for Managers for the ensuing year. E. G. GILES,

THE GLORY OF MAN IS STRENGTH. Therefore the nervous and debilitated should im mediately use HELSEDOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU, 124

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A LOVE STORY.

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Author of "The Planter's Daughter," "Was He Guitte or, The Warning Voice," "The Bride of Fate," "The Lady of Ashurst," "The Fatal Error," "The Revil Genica," 'The Secret Chamber." "The Out-law's Bride," "The Life Curse," "The Dead Heart," 'The White Terror," "The Family Secret," etc. etc.

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office where received.

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